

Support for Changes - 37 CFR 1.173(c)

The first change to claim 1 changes the preamble to clarify that the transaction is with “an external device” (singular). The support for this change appears for example in column 2, lines 32-37, where the 6,111,605 patent disclosure states:

As a step for making a video still video camera more versatile, there is provided an operation mode such as a communicating function for fetching image data as well as voice data each photographed by the digital still video camera into **external device** such as a computer or the like. (emphasis added)

The next amendment to claim 1 clarifies that the function of the picture information input means is for input of picture information. Exemplary support for this revised claim language appears in column 11 (lines 53-57) of the 6,111,605 patent, which begins the description of one procedure for “input of picture information.”

The amendment to the second paragraph of claim 1 also clarifies that input of the picture information is “for an image forming apparatus.” This revised language corresponds to language appearing in unamended patent claim 2 (column 54, lines 35-36), which is also part of the disclosure of the 6,111,605 patent. The new language also conforms closely to the terminology appearing in line 1 of column 6 of the patent.

The other change to the second paragraph of claim 1 indicates that the image forming apparatus “**is an example** of said external **device**.” This revision conforms to the new singular “device” language in the preamble, and in that respect, it is similarly supported in the patent disclosure. The original version of the claim indicated that the image forming apparatus was just “one of the external devices” (see column 54, lines 19-20); and similar language appears in the descriptive text of the patent (see e.g. column 6, lines 1-3). It is submitted that if the image forming apparatus is just one of the external devices that might be involved in the transaction, as

clearly disclosed in the patent specification, then the image forming apparatus may be said to be "an example" of the external device (singular).

The amendment to the third paragraph of claim 1 (relating to the ... "memory means") deletes a somewhat repetitive phrase indicating that the picture information was that "inputted from said picture information input means" and instead amends the paragraph to simply reference "the input picture information." The new phrase "the input picture information" finds clear antecedent basis in the preceding paragraph of the claim, and it is submitted that the support for the amended version of that preceding paragraph also provides support for the revised phrasing in the third paragraph of claim 1 (see e.g. column 6, lines 1-3).

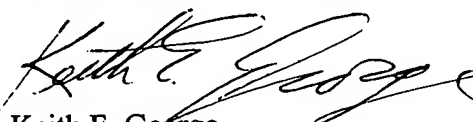
Conclusions

All claims are believed allowable, and a prompt favorable consideration of this reissue application is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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